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Information

# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SUBJECT	1. Naval Vessels in the Gulf of Finland 2. Port of Leningrad	DATE DISTR.	18 November 1955
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. [redacted] seven small naval vessels on varying but generally easterly or southeasterly courses were observed in a position 12 to 15 nautical miles southeast of Kalbadagrund (N59-59, E25-37). First came a vessel which was changing its course continually and which occasionally headed almost 90 degrees to the course of the rest of the formation. Then came five vessels in two columns, and finally, a good way to the rear of the others, the seventh vessel. The vessels looked to be of German origin. Each had one mast and one funnel, apparently painted aluminum, abaft the mast. They were smoking badly. Later in the morning, there were two submarines on a westerly course near the Leningrad Lightship. [redacted] It was a small vessel with no guns either on deck or on the conning tower. Two tubes projected up from the tower: one tube had a sleeve at the top. [redacted] It had a relatively long conning tower with a gun at the after edge. No tubes or periscope-like objects protruded up from the conning tower. Early in the forenoon, a peculiar auxiliary vessel lay at anchor outside Kronshtadt. [redacted] The vessel consisted of two parallel hulls or pontoons, each provided with a rudder. Four iron connecting members extended from deck to deck. [redacted]

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2. [redacted] a minesweeper with the sweep streamed was in the region east of Tallinn Lightship. [redacted] There

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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were also five or six small naval vessels, old destroyers, in Kronshtadt, as were five submarines further on in the harbor.

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The following vessels were observed in the region between Kronshtadt and the Leningrad Lightship: Small mine-sweepers

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a minesweeper and an MTB The following vessels were in column on an easterly course about halfway between the Leningrad Lightship and Seskar Island: ADMIRAL MAKAROV a destroyer a SVERDLOV-Class cruiser

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The OKTYABRSKAYA REVOLYUTSIYA went directly across the prohibited area northwest of the Leningrad Lightship.

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3. the following naval vessels were observed from a position about 15 nautical miles west of the Leningrad Lightship: Toward the northwestern horizon the OKTYABRSKAYA REVOLYUTSIYA and five large naval vessels, probably SVERDLOV Class cruisers. A couple of nautical miles north there was a smoke screen, out of which came eight identical, medium large naval vessels, probably destroyers, and an undetermined number of smaller vessels, all pursuing a course toward Kronshtadt.

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They were about 400 to 450 feet long, with a low forecastle with a small break down at the forward funnel. There were two gun mounts, or possibly shields which were open to the rear, on the foredeck, with two guns in each. The bridge had something large and round on top; range finders extended out to the side at the top of the large round thing and at the very top there was a small radar scanner. A tripod mast with several antennas stood close abaft the bridge. The forward funnel, which was equipped with a smoke deflector and was raked, was situated just abaft the mast. An object, possibly a torpedo mount, was situated between the funnels. The after funnel was similar to the forward one but the smoke deflector sloped toward the bow. The mainmast was also of tripod construction, larger than the foremast, and had a large radar scanner at the truck. One, possibly two, gun mounts were on the afterdeck. Around the after funnel there were quadruple-mounted antiaircraft guns, and abaft the aftermast there was a quintuple-mounted antiaircraft gun. (See Sketch No. 1) The smaller vessels had two funnels, drop slides on the afterdeck, and transom sterns. there were four identical submarines in the channel between Kronshtadt and the Morskoy Canal. They were apparently new, and uncompleted. They had streamlined conning towers. No guns were visible either on deck or in the conning tower.

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4. three medium large naval vessels of the same class as the destroyers described above, and as shown on Sketch No. 1, were observed along the quay at the Zhdanov Shipyard in Leningrad. All appeared to be completed. an unfinished vessel of the same class was towed from the Zhdanov Shipyard into the Morskoy Canal. This vessel had no armament.

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5. two transport vessels, together with a large and a medium large naval vessel, lay at anchor just outside the moles at Kronshtadt. One transport vessel was painted gray and had two funnels. The other and had a small gun mount on the forward edge of the bridge, and one funnel. The combatant vessels were the cruiser ADMIRAL MAKAROV one funnel. six medium large

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naval vessels were in the harbor at Kronshtadt. Two [redacted] with two funnels, each with a mast at the forward edge. The four vessels lying behind them were probably of the same class. The OKTYABRSKAYA REVOLYUTSIYA lay moored to buoys between Kronshtadt and the Leningrad Lightship. The guns in the casemates had been removed. The pilot said that the old battleship was to be scrapped next year.

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6. [redacted] the ADMIRAL MAKAROV [redacted] and three medium large naval vessels were near Narvi Light. The vessels sailed on varying courses in symmetrical formation, and were engaged in laying down smoke screens. A vessel [redacted] lay moored [redacted]. The former was a flush-decker, with two funnels between which there were two torpedo mounts. On the same day four naval vessels lay nested along the quay at the Zhdanov Shipyard. [redacted] It was a flushdecker with two funnels and two masts. There was a large grill scanner with a conical construction abaft the top of the mainmast. The three vessels between this vessel and the quay were probably of the same class. Two newly constructed naval vessels lay along the north quay of the Marti Shipyard. The vessel nearest the bridge on Gaza Avenue had a high superstructure. The mast had not been erected and probably not the funnels either. Everything on the vessel which was visible over the fence was red-lead.

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7. [redacted] a very large naval vessel entered and anchored just inside Kronshtadt. It was escorted by an undetermined number of smaller vessels, of which some anchored and some turned and went back in the direction of the Leningrad Lightship. [redacted] It had a very large, broad, weather bow, with three superimposed gun turrets on the foredeck. There were probably three guns in the two upper turrets and four guns in the lower one. There was a radar scanner on each gun turret. The vessel had four not quite identical, perpendicular funnels. The pilot referred to the vessel as "battleship" and "the chief's ship." All other vessels saluted this vessel.

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8. At the northern end of Zhdanov Shipyard there was a colossal stationary crane setup, consisting of large portal crane, the upper construction of which was especially substantial. Several crabs of various sizes travelled lengthwise of the crane. There was open water under the crane portal but no locks. One of the destroyers described above was observed inside the base underneath the crane. An object resembling a torpedo was hoisted aboard.
9. The quay on the north side of Khlebnyy-Lesnoy mole was designated No. 76. There were 10 mobile 15-ton cranes along the edge of the quay. Behind these was a larger number of 5-ton cranes. A ferry went into the city from the western end of the quay on Khlebnyy-Lesnoy mole. Travel on the ferry was gratis. Everyone who attempted to go into the city via land was stopped.
10. Dredging operations were in progress in the navigation channel inside Kronshtadt. It was said that one time in the latter part of June the scoops of the dredging apparatus had picked up two mines and the port was closed for five or six days. Two apparently new floating cranes, both rated at 100 tons, were seen in the port. A 50-ton and a 25-ton floating crane was observed.

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11. [ ] a submarine and three destroyers accompanied by a large naval vessel were three or four nautical miles east of Sommat. All the vessels were headed towards Sommat and were sailing at unequal distances from each other, apparently not in any formation. The destroyers, which were farthest away [ ] were carrying on gunnery and smoke screen laying exercises. The submarine [ ] had a large conning tower. The destroyers were alike, they each had two funnels and two masts. The large naval vessel [ ] resembled the ADMIRAL MAKAROV. [ ] the vessel [ ] ADMIRAL MAKAROV, lay at anchor near the Leningrad Lightship. [ ] a destroyer and an undetermined number of submarines were between the Leningrad Lightship and Kronshtadt proceeding toward the lightship. The destroyer [ ] was a flushdecker with one gun mount on the foredeck, a bridge with mast at the after edge, a sphere-shaped object on the mast, one funnel just abaft the mast, one torpedo mount with three tubes on the centerline forward of the funnel and one torpedo mount with three tubes on the centerline abaft the funnel, the mainmast and one gun mount on the afterdeck. (See Sketch No. 2) At 1700 hours GMT a submarine with pennant number 41 was on a northeasterly course north of Takona Light.

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12. [ ] a special purpose vessel was at anchor outside Kronshtadt. [ ] It had two hulls, each provided with a screw and a rudder, and four tall steel arches from hull to hull. The command bridge was atop the forward arch. (See Sketch No. 3)

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13. [ ] a medium large naval vessel was moored in buoys due west of the Leningrad Lightship. It [ ] was about 350 to 400 feet long, and had flush decks with a marked sheer in the foredeck. It had two gun mounts on the foredeck with one or two guns in each. The bridge had two structures at the top, neither of which had a distinct spherical shape. There was a tripod mast at the after edge of the bridge, a radar scanner atop the mast, and much other antenna equipment. The forward funnel was immediately abaft the mast. There were two torpedo mounts on each side abaft the funnel, but the number of tubes was not observed. The mainmast was the same height as the foremast, and also had antennas. A structure like one of the two on the bridge projected upward between the mainmast and the after funnel. The after funnel was identical with the forward one. There were two torpedo mounts on each side abaft the after funnel, and two gun mounts on the afterdeck with one or two guns in each. (See Sketch No. 4) [ ] a submarine [ ] was moored in buoys between the Leningrad Lightship and Kronshtadt. It had flat sides on the hull, and a comparatively low conning tower, perpendicular on the forward edge and sloped toward the deck on the after edge. There were no guns visible on deck, nor on the conning tower.

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14. [ ] the ADMIRAL MAKAROV was in the harbor at Kronshtadt. [ ] the bow of another vessel projected upward. [ ] At about 0600 hours GMT on 24 August, a medium large naval vessel [ ] was moored in buoys between Kronshtadt and the Leningrad Lightship. It was over 400 feet long, and had flush decks. It had one gun mount with two guns on the foredeck; a bridge with a large spherical shaped object on top; a tripod mast with miscellaneous

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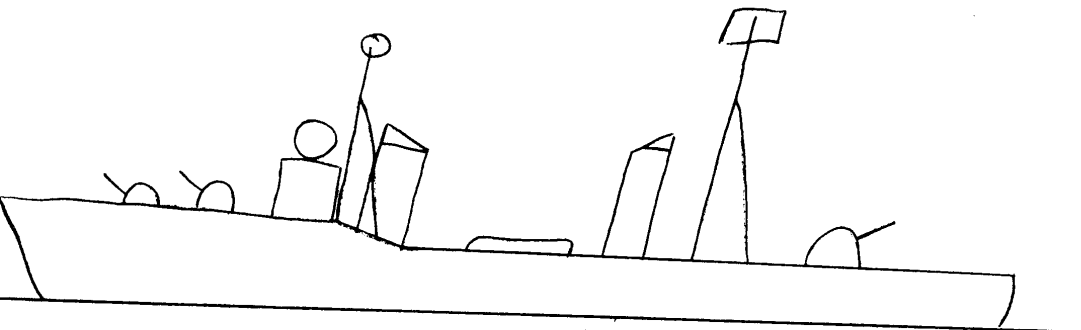
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antennas and a radar scanner abaft the bridge; a raked funnel; four torpedo mounts, two on each side between the forward funnel and the mainmast; a mainmast shorter than the foremast with a peculiar scanner which narrowed down towards the end in rolling-pin shape at the truck (see Sketch No. 5b); the after funnel, identical with the forward one, immediately abaft the mainmast; and one gun mount with two guns on the afterdeck (see Sketch No. 5a). [redacted] a medium large naval vessel [redacted] was two to three nautical miles north of Shepelev Light. The vessel sailed on various courses at various speeds. (See Sketch No. 4)

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Sketch No. 1:Destroyers near the Leningrad Lightship:

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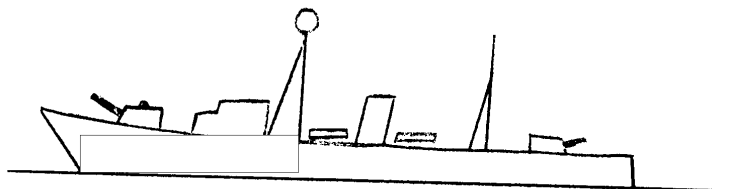
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Sketch No. 2:

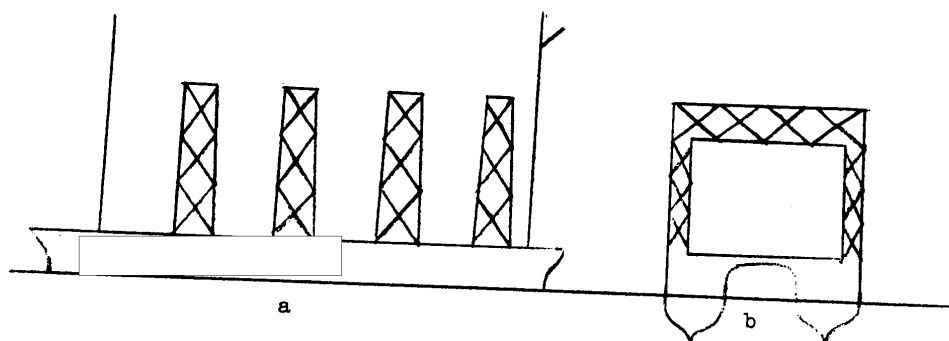
Vessel underway near the Leningrad Lightship:



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Sketch No. 3:

Special purpose vessel at Kronshtadt:



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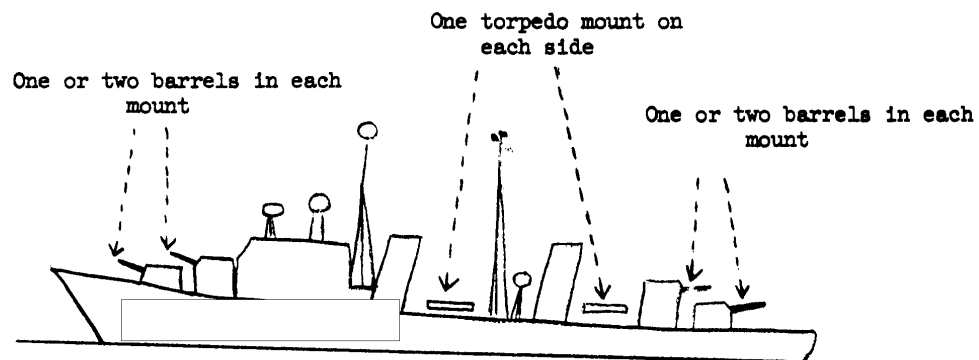
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Sketch No. 4:

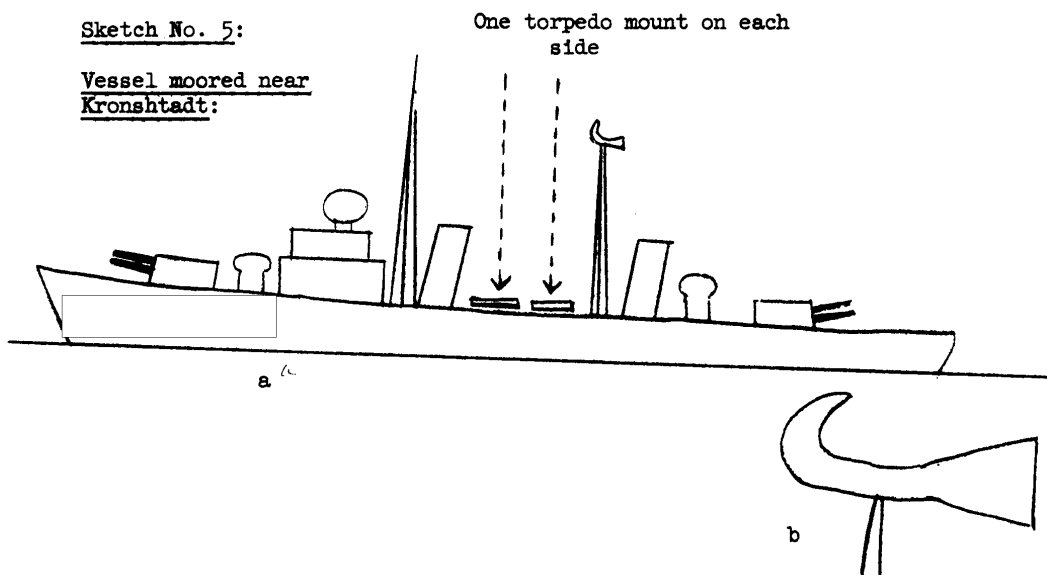
Vessel moored near the Leningrad Lightship:



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Sketch No. 5:

Vessel moored near Kronshtadt:



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